THE SOUTHERN PRESS.

WEEKLY, - - - - - 2 00 REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE

NAVY DEPARTMENT,) Abv. 30, 1850. SIR: In anticipation of the session of Congress, I respectfully submit the annual report of

this department of the public service. The vessels in commission during the past year, exclusive of the steamer Michigan, under been cruising on the lakes above Niagara, giv-

ferent squadrons. commanding, whose field of operations extends from the Banks of Newfoundland to the mouth of the Amazon river, has comprised the frigate Raritan, Captain Page, the sloop-of-war Albany, Commander Randolph, the sloop-of-war Ger-mantown, Commander Lowndes, the steamer Viven, Lieutenant Commanding Smith, the steamer Waterwitch, Lieutenant Commanding Totten, and the schooner Flirt, Lieutenant Commanding Turner, and has been chiefly occupied in the West Indies and the Gulf of Mexico .-The valuable services of the vessels of this squadron, together with the frigate Congress and the steamer Saranac, in preventing a violation of our national obligations in an attempted invasion of the Island of Cuba from the United States, and the mission of Commodore Morris to intercede with the Spanish authorities of that island, for the lives and liberation of our misguided fellow-citizens who had joined in that distant service, was withdrawn from this squadexpected soon to be again ready for sea. The sloop Germantown having been infected with sloop Germantown having been infected with yellow fever during her cruise in the West Indies, was taken early in the present autumn to dies, was taken early in the present autumn to dies. yellow fever during her cruise in the West Inthe port of New York, and being now thoroughly cleaused and refitted, is preparing to join the squadron on the coast of Africa. The ded to this squadron, and bears the broad pennant of Commodore Parker.

The Pacific squadron continued under the ner, Vincennes, Commander Hudson, Falmouth. Commander Pearson, St. Mary's, Commander attentive consideration of the legislature. Magruder, Warren, (unseaworthy and used as a storeship) Lieutenant Pickering, the steamer Massachueetts, Lieutenant Knox, and the storeship Supply, Lieutenant Kennedy. The sloop Preble, Commander Glynn, and the storeship Fredonia, Lieutenant Neville, are now on their homeward voyage from this station, and the ship of the line Ohio, Commander Stribling, returned therefrom in April, and was placed in ordinary at the navy yard in Charleston. It is intended that the frigate Raritan, and sloop St. Mary's, which have been recently despatched to this squadron, together with a third vessel, to be designated by the Commodore, shall cruise be tween Cape Horn and Panama, and westward the 180th degree of longitude, visiting the Marquesas and Friendly Islands, and making their depot of supplies at Valparaiso, while the residue of the squadron will be generally em ployed in that ocean north of the equator. The advantage, indeed the necessity of an efficient fleet in the Pacific for the protection of an extended territory, and sudden and wonderful the world, cannot be too highly estimated, and will be again adverted to in the sequel of this

The squadron on the coast of Brazil, Commo dore McKeever commanding, is composed of the frigate Congress, Captain McIntosh, bearing the broad pennant of the Commodore : the sloop St. Louis, Commander Cocke, the brig Bain bridge, Lieut. Manning, and the storeship Relief. Lieut, Totten. The frigate Brandywine, Captain Boarman, the flag ship of Commodore Storer. who was recently relieved from the command of this station, is expected soon to arrive at the port of New York. The cruise of this squad ron, extending from the mouth of the river Amazon to Cape Horn, and occasionally eastward to the coast of Africa, its attention has been espe cially directed to the suppression, by legitimate interposition, of the African slave trade, still carried on to a considerable extent between Brazil and the coast of Africa; to the protection of our neutral rights in the state of hostility lately existing between the Argentine Republic and the Banda Oriental of Uraguay, and the cultivation of relations of commerce and amity with the governments and people of the several na-

tions along the coast of its cruzing ground. The Mediteranean squadron, under the command of Commodore Morgan, consists of his flagship, the Razee Independence, Capt. Jameson. the frigate Cumberland, Captain Latimer, the steamer Mississippi, Captain Long, and the store- dock at New York, will have augmented our these questions, we must bear constantly in officers of great merit and intelligence. ship Lexington, Lieutenant Mitchell. The course naval facilities in this respect threefold within mind that we have arrived at a new era in our of political events in Europe not appearing to the next twelve months, and will have provided history arising from our occupation and vast ex- so as to furnish only so many as may be rerequire the continuance of the large force which all the accommodations of that kind which may tension of our territories on the coast of the Pa-quired to supply the higher grades, as vacancies them there for permanent use; and had been assembled in that sea, in consequence be required on the waters of the Atlantic and citic. of the unsettled aspect of affairs at the date of the Gulf of Mexico for many years to come. It is not a matter of surprise that a system the last annual report from this Department, the The navy yard at Washington carries on a which has grown to its present dimensions with, that now established, and to fix an age in every nally carried out, to enlist them in the Atlantic frigate St. Lawrence, Captain Paulding, attached highly important manufactory of ordnance and out any law of increase, should be found un- grade, upon the att imment of which, if no val ports, and send them out in Government transto this squadron, was ordered to proceed to the ordnance stores, of anchors, chain cables, steam shapely and disproportioned. An obvious the United States. She arrived at New York in the present month. The frigate Constitution
Captain Conver, also of this squadron has been considered between the source of economy as to furnish a contemplated by the contemplated Under orders from the Department, Commodore Sels than can be obtained in market. The yard and men, or than will be required in any state of the flag-ship Independence and the at Memphis is being immediately prepared for and men, or than will be required in any state of the deliberation of Congress.

Commander Peck, the sloop-of-war John Adams, and Docks, to provide against like casualties for men. Commander Powell, the sloop-of-war Dale, Com- the future. Commander Powell, the sloop-of-war Dale, Commander Pearson, the brig Porpoise, Licutenant Foote.

Lardner, and the brig Perry, Licutenant Foote.

Orders were issued for the return of the sloop-of-war Yorktown, Commander Marston, lately of-war Yorktown, Commander Marston, lately of-war Yorktown, Commander Marston, lately of the Pacific, I have invited proposals for the Pacific proposals for the Pacific, I have invited proposals for the Pacific, I have invited proposals for the Pacific proposals for the Standard proposals for the Pacific proposals for the Stan crew were saved, and have been sent home in shall be agreed upon, it is the intention of the pursors, 6 chaplains, 396 passed and other mid-because they have commanded squadrons, who code sail vessels as ships of war, I am yet the the sloop John Adams; they arrived at Norfolk on the 27th instant; the vessel is a total loss.

Under the vigilance and energy of the officers

The sloop John Adams; they arrived at Norfolk on the 27th instant; the vessel is a total loss.

Under the vigilance and energy of the officers

The sloop John Adams; they arrived at Norfolk on the ocean, as rear-admirals and vice-and-ble auxillaries, and I respectfully submit for ants, 5 surgeons, 10 passed and assistant survivol mirals, contemporaries in other, services, with ble auxillaries, and I respectfully submit for ants, 5 surgeons, 10 passed and assistant survivol mirals, contemporaries in other, services, with ble auxillaries, and I respectfully submit for your examination herewith a letter from an offiin the port of Baltimore for trial.

year, exclusive of the steamer Michigan, under the command of Commodore Bullus, which has been cruising on the lakes above Ningara, giving pretection to our commerce, and rendering assistance to our distressed merchantmen on those island seas, have been employed in six different sounds of the United States, and carried him to method of supplying them, where the chief secret sounds are not our commerce, and rendering the sloop-of-war Plymouth, at Macon, Mr. Balsel be thoroughly built of the best materials, service of their country, and have given to it the sloop-of-war Plymouth, at Macon, Mr. Balsel be thoroughly built of the best materials, service of their country, and have given to it the sloop-of-war Plymouth, at Macon, Mr. Balsel be thoroughly built of the best materials, service of their country, and have given to it the sound to act for their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the sound to act for their country in diplomatic intercourse with distance to act for their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the sloop-of-war Plymouth, at Macon, Mr. Balsel be thoroughly built of the best materials, service of their country, and have given to it the sound to act for their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the service of their country, and have given to it the The home squadron, Commodore Parker with a view to the extension of our commercial by the contractor. In a time of commoding, whose field of operations extends among those distant and peculiar many their means of livelyhood.

Cochin-China and other parts of Eastern Asia, curity for their effectiveness would be the profit to be realized by the contractor. In a time of cour navel battles in which the skill and prowess ment and change in their means of livelyhood.

The Banks of Nawfoundland to the month of the means of livelyhood in their means of livelyhood.

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The profit of the means of livelyhood.

The profit of the extension of our commercial of a regiment. No comparison can possibly be exercising in fleets. It has so happened that all our navel battles in which the skill and prowess of our navel battles in which the skill and prowess of our defence which have so of our officers have been so signally maintained.

tional character, and that our interests and com-merce in every sea have been secure and pros-Such being the condition of the vessels of merce in every sea have been secure and prosperous under its protection.

of science and mautical adventure throughout the naval force was reduced in 1801, and the the would, two brigantines were received, and number of vessels and officers limited by law, by order of my predecessor were placed under the supernumerary officers being discharged and its gallant and faithful servants, should be in no supervision and direction of the personnel of the the command of Lieut. J. De Haven, who, with the vessels sold. The Tripolitan war, which respect pretermitted, but nothing should be all navy as might be assigned him by the head of expedition and had been captured, were made known to Congress in a communication from the last President, in the month of June last.—

The frigate Raritan, being required for more that service. The command of one the service was assigned to Passed Midship-increasing commerce, with the obvious necession of these vessels was assigned to Passed Midship-increasing commerce, with the obvious necession of the purposes of its institution. Incompeting the Ceneral-in-Chief and the Adjutant General for the purposes of its institution. Incompeting the Ceneral-in-Chief and the Adjutant General for the purposes of the sevence of the purposes of the connection of the General-in-Chief and the Adjutant General for the purposes of the purposes of the connection of the General-in-Chief and the Adjutant General for the purposes of the connection of the General-in-Chief and the Department of War. The other, when of these vessels was assigned to Passed Midship-increasing commerce, with the obvious necession of the sevence of the se The frigate Raritan, being required for more man S. P. Griffin, Lieutenant De Haven com- ity for its protection, and the protracted dispute with displeasure; incompetency from unavoid not in command at sea, should establish his manding the other in person, and having the di- with Great Britain as to the rights of our flag able and honorable causes, with commiseration quarters at San Francisco, or other point on the distant service, was withdrawn from this squadron in the month of May, and, after being refitted, was despatched, under the command of
Captain Gauntt, to the South Pacific Ocean.

Captain Gauntt, to the South Pacific Ocean.

We would be invested with commission, so in the war which ended this dispute, it so gained

We would be invested with commission, so in the case should commission, so on the registration and a reasonable commission, so on the ocean, and the brillant achievements by mand or promotion be denied to those rights were vindicated by the navy which ended this dispute, it so gained

We would be invested with command or promotion and a reasonable commission, so on the ocean, and the brillant achievements by mand or promotion be denied to those rights were vindicated by the navy which ended this dispute, it so gained to the country of their last report to the Department had adto fill the service, was withdrawn from this squadmanding the other in person, and having the dimand should be invested with command or promotion and a reasonable commission, so
on the ocean, and the brillant achievements by mand or promotion be denied to those rights were vindicated by the navy
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ma The steamers Waterwitch and Vixen standing vanced to the 76th degree of north latitude, and the public estimation that at the close of the try and its enemies in the hour of danger. Even naval forces in the Pacific and in the China and in need of repairs, were brought for that purpose to the Navy Yard at Washington, and are
expected soon to be again ready for sea. The giou, and as yet not without hope of success in the annual sum of \$1,000,000, for eight years, made, for removal from office for mental or Department, at stated and early periods. The

partment, is, in the most important part of its steamer Saranac, Captain Tatnall, has been added to this squadron, and bears the broad pennant of Commodore Parker.

partment, is, in the most important part of its field operations, essentially performed by them. During the last year, nine parties, eight in the Atlantic and one in the Pacific, each in charge of lature, and appropriations for increase, as well lature, and appropriations for increase, as well command of Commodore T. Ap C. Jones until petent force of midshipmen as assistants, have the month of June last, when he was relieved been actively engaged in this survey. Whether, unounts, until the present time, but without any eral usage has made lineal promotion to all approve and carry into effect their sentences; and succeeded by Commodore McCauley. It in consideration of the main objects expected to consists of the frigate Savannah, Captain Page, be realized in the completion of the work, and criptions of vessels deemed necessary for the bearing the broad pennant of the commander of the large agency in its execution devolved on the squadron; the frigate Raritan, Captain the navy, if would not be more appropriate and Gauntt, the sloops Vandalia, Commander Gard- just, as well as economical, to assign it wholly to this branch of the servise, is worthy of the

> Having presented a hasty review of the service our various squadrons during the past year. and designing to suggest some general considerations upon the naval policy required by the present interests of the country, I deem it needbriefly to review our present naval establish-

21 sloops of war; 4 brigs; 2 schooners; 5 provisional clause in the annual appropriation a higher rank, if such shall be established, senisteam frigates; 3 steamers of the 1st class; 6 steamers less than 1st class; 5 store-ships.

Of these there are in commission, 1 razee: ers, (coast sampy,) 2 steam frigates; I steamer | further appointment of midshipmen was forbid- | vet rank or other advancement in the naval serof the 1st class: 3 steamers less than 1st class; den until they should be reduced to the number vice is allowed to reward the most heroic exdo: 1 sloop do.

tended territory, and sudden and wonderful commerce in that hitherto unoccupied region of the world, cannot be too highly estimated, and the world, cannot be too highly estimated, and the world representatives at the last session, and the representatives at the last session, and their report will be laid before you as

Baltic, on a short cruise, and thence to return to engines, and other fabrics of iron, and prepara- fault of the present organization of the personnel from the many to find employment in the merchordered home, and may be expected daily, better quality of rolled copper for sheathing ves- into the higher grades a greater number of offisteamer Mississippi, visited Lisbon in the month the manufacture of cordage and other supplies things likely soon to occur. of June, and received on board our Charge of hempen material for naval uses, and its The shore stations comprehending navy yards, d'Affaires, on the occasion of his retirement from operations may be enlarged with the necessities that court, and conveyed him to Naples. This of the service. I have regretted to learn that one of each for the Pacific coast, will require least two officers of the rank of Rear Admiral. equadron has been actively engaged in visiting there has been some loss in the expenditure 18 captains, 21 commanders, 56 lieutenants, 27 the various ports of the Mediterranean, the Adri- there, in consequence of the difficulty of ob- surgeons, 10 passed and assistant surgeons, 14

attached to this squadron, but before their re- construction of such a work, and the officers of class, I steamer of the 2d class, 3 sloops-of-war, minds of the meritorious and aspiring of all the ready furnished an arm of great power, which ceipt she was wrecked on a coral reef on the the proper bureau are now engaged in calcula- it will give employment at one time to 24 cap- inferior ranks. We have at this time veterans has been well likened to flying artillery on land, northern extremity of the island of Mavo, one tions intended to test the reasonableness of tains, 30 commanders, 156 lieutenants, 36 sur- in our navy, with the commissions only of cap- is beyond all question; and, though not concurof the Cape de Verdes. All the officers and those offered. So soon as satisfactory terms goons, 60 passed and assistant surgeons, 42 tain, and the titles, by courtesy, of commodore, ring in the opinion that war-steamers will super-

Under the vigilance and energy of the officers of this force, the slave traffic has been broken lie works, fixtures machinery, &c., at the existgeons, 8 pursers, 4 chaplains, 8 passed and other nants, and who now with superior rank have eer of much intelligence and experience in the few months, making its whole number five. up on the west coast of Africa, but it still preling navy yards, the stores on hand for the convails on the south coast, in vessels bearing the struction, equipment, and repair of vessels, are flag of the United States, in spite of the efforts equal in value in round numbers to \$6,500,000. our cruisers, which have been from time to The resources of the country in timber, iron, should be, at all times, such a number of officers in the abundance of its resources and its situation an enemy by means of their great weight, and time despatched from the squadron to suppress copper, hemp, and every species of naval sup- as to allow a reasonable respite between active tio between the two greatest oceans, is capable the momentum of which they are capable by Within the present month a brig, called the plies, will enable these to be increased according cruises at sea, and to provide against losses from of occupying the very first place, should not be power of steam. As connected with this Chatsworth, captured as a prize on the latter coast by Lieutenant Foote, in the brig Perry, for cline to the opinion that, in the present state of sudden casualty.

Chatsworth, captured as a prize on the latter to our necessities. Many intelligent persons in sudden casualty.

But as a duty on shore is itself a relief from ranks, and should look to and prepare for the recommendation of the chief of the Bureau of coast by Lieutenant Foote, in the brig Perry, for cline to the opinion that, in the present state of being concerned in the slave trade, has arrived mechanical science and enterprise, and with the duty at sea, it is believed that the above list of command of fleets as well as squadrons in any Construction, that our sail-ships of war, hereaf-

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In seen at one of the second case the offence of the supervision of public officers. And it may well be doubted whether, if a system were now spice to our officers on that station, and the reports the supervision of public officers. And it may well be doubted whether, if a system were now spice to our officers on that station, and the reports the supervision of public officers. And it may well be doubted whether, if a system were now well be doubted whether, if a system were now spice to be projected, without reference to what has given to be projected, without reference to what has supervision of public officers. And it may well be doubted whether, if a system were now well be doubted whether, if a system were now to be projected, without reference to what has supervision of public officers. And it may well be doubted whether, if a system were now well be doubted whether, if a system were now well be doubted whether, if a system were now to be projected, without reference to what has supervision of public officers. And it may captains, so commanders, soo neutenants, with a colorist to be projected, without reference to what has supervision of public officers.

TRI-WEEKLY, - - - - 5 00 Department to the Department of State. Department to the Department of State.

The squadron in the East India and China seas, lately under the command of Commodore who returned home in the sloop St.

Mary's in June last, was transferred to the commond of Commodore Voorhees, and consists of mand of Commodore Voorhees, and consists of mendage on private contracts, more of the state mand of Commodore Voorhees, and consists of pendence on private contracts, moreover, would for the duties of ordnance, hydrography, sciental a brigadier-general; captain of a ship of forty other three will be also ready in the course of a the sloop-of-war Saratoga, Commander Walker, deprive the Government of any convenience of tific observation, the coast survey, and all special guns and upwards, as a colonel, &c. and the sloop-of-war Marion, Commander Glendy.
The sloop-of-war Plymouth, Commander Gedney, and the brig Dolphin, Lieutenant Comcial cities, where private as well as public pa
While the propriety of this curtailment would

This scheme of relative rank prevails in the British service at the present day. It is worthy be the Saranac will be retained in the British service at the present day. It is worthy be the Saranac will be retained in the British service at the present day. It is worthy be the Saranac will be retained in the British service at the present day. It is worthy be the Saranac will be retained in the British service at the present day. It is worthy be the Saranac will be retained in the British service at the present day. It is worthy be the Saranac will be retained in the British service at the present day. It is worthy be the Saranac will be retained in the British service at the present day. It is worthy be the Saranac will be retained in the British service at the present day. It is worthy be the Saranac will be retained in the British service at the present day. It is worthy be the Saranac will be retained in the British service at the present day. It is worthy be the Saranac will be retained in the British service at the present day. It is worthy be the Saranac will be retained in the British service at the present day. It is worthy be the Saranac will be retained in the British service at the present day. It is worthy be the Saranac will be retained in the British service at the present day. It is worthy be the Saranac will be retained in the British service at the present day. It is worthy be the Saranac will be retained in the British service at the present day. It is worthy be the Saranac will be retained in the British service at the present day. mander Page, having been recently detached tronage might be expected. It is, moreover, so appear to be manifest to give symmetry to the nafrom this service on the expiration of their cruise, indispensable, that ships of war shall be con-val corps, and to infuse life and animation into all army of the United States, our naval officers, squadron, and to send the two remaining ones this squadron took on board of his flag-ship, warfare, as well as of naval architecture, and tice to those who have devoted themselves to the more frequently than those of the army, called of the squadrons in the Pacific and the East Inochin-China and other parts of Eastern Asia, curity for their effectiveness would be the profit ings of those discharged, and that suitable remuntions.

It is a source of high gratification that, where ever our flag has been displayed by a national for the supply of vessels, but it would be most ressel, it has received the respect due to the na- injudicious to depend on them as our only re-

> Under the joint resolution of Congress ap- augmenting their number, the question natural- wisdom of Congress. proved May 2, 1850, "authorizing the President | ly presents itself, what naval force do we require! o accept and attach to the navy two vessels of. The answer to this question must of course vary ered by Henry Grinnell, esq., of New York, to with the varying circumstances of the country. be sent to the Arctic seas in search of the British | Having been organized on its present basis by commander, Sir John Franklin, and his com- the act of 1798, and considerably enlarged, in panious," whose uncertain and melancholy situa- consequence of the state of hostilities with tion has enlisted the sympathics of the filends France for the two or three years succeeding, list on terms both just and liberal.

on the Coast Survey, a work which, although and increase still continued to be a favorite ob-committed to the direction of the Treasury De-ject with Congress and the country. In 1825, 1826, and 1827, the question of a proper naval a lieutenant in the navy, accompanied by a com- as maintenance and repair, have continued to be national marine.

The numbers in the various grades of the

treaty in 1801, no statute for more than forty There are also on the stocks, and in progress of construction, but the work thereon now suspended, four ships of the line and two frigates.

To the foregoing may be added a contingent naval force of vessels owned by individuals, but thus ascertained, it continues to be required.

Another defect in the present establishment, and to that expanding commerce of provided they can be added a contingent of the service by the sentice, and to that expanding commerce with the present establishment, and to that expanding commerce with the present establishment, and to that expanding commerce with the present establishment, and to that expanding commerce with the present establishment, and to that expanding commerce with the present establishment, and to that expanding commerce with the present establishment, and to that expanding commerce with the present establishment, and to the present establishment, and the present establishment establishment, and the present establishment establishment establishment.

employed in the transportation of the mail, and comprises 68 captains, 97 commanders, 327 lieu- ages of subaltern officers and their grades, pro- policy adequate to these ends seems to be indis- to draw or raise any weapon against him, while soon as received. iable in any emergeccy to be taken at valuation tenants, 68 surgeons, 37 passed assistant sur- coeding from the fixed numbers in each rank pensably required. It is a fact, perhaps not gen- in the execution of the duties of his office, on The joint board of officers of the army and dable in any emergency to be taken at valuation and converted into vessels of war, namely: Four geons, 43 assistant surgeons, 64 pursers, 24 and the failure to provide for any promotion exceeding from the fixed numbers in each rank pain of death, or such other punishment as a navy, who have been engaged in the examination of our Pacific coast with reference to harbors, forsteamers of the first class employed on the line chaplains, 12 professors of mathematics, 11 mas-cept in cases of vacancy. The senior passed time necessary for its accomplishment, now between New York and Liverpool. A fifth is steamer of the first class between New York and Liverpool. A fifth is steamer of the first class between New York and Liverpool. A fifth is steamer of the first class between New York and Liverpool. A fifth is steamer of the first class between New York and Liverpool. A fifth is steamer of the first class between New York and Liverpool. A fifth is steamer of the first class between New York and Liverpool. A fifth is steamer of the first class between New York and Liverpool. A fifth is steamer of the first class between New York and Liverpool. A fifth is steamer of the first class between New York and Liverpool. A fifth is steamer of the first class between New York and Liverpool. A fifth is steamer of the first class between New York and Liverpool. A fifth is service, are older than our Pacific ports, and hence it will appear manifest they achieved their victories with so much restricted for the first class between New York and Liverpool. A fifth is ters in the line of promotion, and 464 passed midshipmen, now in the service, are older than our Pacific ports, and hence it will appear manifestly expedient, in cruises on that ocean to fit suffer death, or such other punishment as a court-lection of a site for a navy yard and dock on that our navigators, is mat from our Actange to the service, are older than our Pacific ports, and hence it will appear manifestly expedient, in cruises on that ocean to fit suffer death, or such other punishment as a court-lection of a site for a navy yard and dock on that our navigators. and Panama. A second steamer on this line annual appropriation for pay and subsistence, nown to the country; the senior lieutenants past out unval expeditions from the Pacific coast, has been brought into use, but has not been 7,500 petry officers, seamen, ordinary seamen, the age when military duty is required of the which shall return thither at the end of their

in the course of the ensuing year, and a floating establishment, with its accustomed regulation way, at Philadelphia within the same period, ties, or whether it may be reformed, regulated, If these three docks shall realize the expecta- and improved so as better to answer the great tions of the Government, they, with the dry objects of its institution? And, in considering two methods have been severally suggested by

atic, and the Archipelago, and has maintained taining a firm foundation for the buildings; and pursers, 12 chaplains, 60 passed and other mid- to be demanded by the highest consideration of not be immediately augmented in any great a discipline and efficiency highly commendable. it is in contemplation to have a survey of the shipmen; leaving for sea service 56 captains, 76 policy and duty. Not to speak of its effect in degree, notwithstanding the accession to our The squadron on the coast of Africa, under yard by a board of engineers, constituted for commanders, 271 lieutenants, 41 surgeons, 70 the command of Commodore Gregory, embraces his flagship, the sloop-of-war Portsmouth, mendation of the Chief of the Bureau of Yards chaplains, and 404 passed and other midship-

Assuming the present number of 7.500 petty

nidshipmen.

We are not, however without precedents for necessary arms of our defence, which have so of our officers have been so signally maintained, injudicious to depend on them as our only resource in preparation for war.

Such being the condition of the vessels of the navy, and our facilities and preparations for that purpose, is respectfully referred to the navy, and our facilities and preparations for that purpose, is respectfully referred to the navy and our facilities and preparations for that purpose, is respectfully referred to the designation of the vessels of four that purpose, is respectfully referred to the designation of the persons to be discharged shall no good reason can be perceived why the high-set officiency in the signals, combination, manœuvres, and exercises of fleets is equal to their well-standard the lakes) fought between single ships; and it no good reason can be perceived why the high-set officiency in the signals, combination, manœuvres, and exercises of fleets is equal to their well-standard the lakes) fought between single ships; and it no good reason can be perceived why the high-set officiency in the signals, combination, manœuvres, and exercises of fleets is equal to their well-standard the lakes) fought between single ships; and it no good reason can be perceived why the high-set officiency in the signals, combination, manœuvres, and exercises of fleets is equal to their well-standard the lakes) fought between single ships; and it no good reason can be perceived why the high-set officiency in the signals, combination, manœuvres, and exercises of fleets is equal to their well-standard the lakes) fought between single ships; and it no good reason can be perceived why the high-set officiency in the signals, combination, manœuvres, and exercises of fleets is equal to their well-standard the lakes) fought between single ships; and it no good reason can be perceived why the high-set officiency in the signals and exercises of the lakes) fought between single ships; and it no good reason can be perceived why the high-set officiency in the signals and the lakes) fought ships and the lakes of the lakes of the lakes of the lakes of t

of the navy, it will be necessary, in order to ren- the army as a reward for the long service and other cause, they may be retired from the active sure of the legislature.

list on terms both rost and liberal.

Of the two rear admirals proposed, one might

In this connexion it is worthy of serious congrades above that of commander. Although officers in any grade up to and including a capto depend on longevity or survivorship—the any now existing in the navy.

tainey, depended on the President and Senate, mere conditions and accidents of entailed estates

The object in maintaining our naval force in tainey, depended on the President and Senate, mere conditions and accidents of entailed estates onsist of 7 ships the line; 1 razee; 12 frigates; sident or Head of the Department alone. By a | that in all future promotions to a captaincy or to bill, approved August 4th, 1842, the number of ority shall not be regarded, and merit shall be officers in the respective grades of the navy was esteemed the only criterion of selection. This lation, probably not exceeding in the rigates; 15 sloops of war; 4 brigs; 2 schoon- in service on the 1st of January, 1842; and any proper, since, under the present system, no breships-of the line, as receiving ships; I steamer in service on the 1st of January, 1844. In this ploit or acknowledged professional superiority, miles in extent from our other settlements. o: 1 sloop do.

There are also on the stocks, and in progress number of officers was fixed by a standard not none the later to the worst, provided they can

tions by the law of 1812, already referred to, tary affairs of California-

1st. To reduce the number of midshipmen,

cancy exists for promotion, they may be retired

tion, or some preferable cure may be devised for last session of Congress, such a course of policy

presentatives of their country in direct inter- tened.

This scheme of relative rank prevails in the officer of the other. If Congress shall think Having by this process determined on the size proper to add the rank of lieutenant-general to

The duty of the Government to take care, in itself, when not on more active duty, in such joyed by the army in the Military Academy at old age or inavoidable decrepitude or disease, of litself, when not on more active duty, in such was appropriated for the gradual increase of the physical incompetency, as well as for crimin- distance of our Pacific coast from the seat of government, even by the most expeditious route, is too great for an energetic system of naval sideration, whether mere seniority of commis-sion should not be disregarded in promotions to orders and despatches to and fro, or even for the enforcement of proper discipline under the the power of the President in nominating to all existing law. In the latter particular our squad-

offices is unlimited by the Constitution, and depend into no qualifications in the candidate, was before the acquisition of California. The and, although in a few instances there have been commander of a squadron on a foreign station is empowered to order courts-martial, and to lefinition by Congress of the number and des- grades in the navy almost a matter of right .- but, if it be within the United States, a court It is certainly convenient, inasmuch as it pre- can only be ordered by the President or the vents favoritism and advances discipline and head of the Department. Thus military justice, subordination, by suppressing hostile rivalry, to which was formerly of easy enforcement where personnel of the navy has, until within a recent adhere to this usage to a certain point of eleva- the squadron was sufficiently numerous to furperiod, been left still more undefined than the tion, but it is inconsistent with the spirit of the nish the necessary officers to constitute a court, umber of ships. Since the reduction of the age, as well as with all our ideas of propriety, is dependent now on orders from Washington, years ever limited the sum total of pers as to tempest, and of pestilential climates, and in It is, however, but one of many illustrations of ful to a full comprehension of the subject, very and officers. The number of commissioned acquirement, skill, and conduct, should be made officer of higher rank and larger authority than

The vessels of the mayy of the United States and the number of warrant officers on the Pre- in family settlements. It is, therefore, proposed the Pacific, and demanding that it shall be in the whole system of officers and punishments the highest degree of efficiency, is two-fold : To protect a coast more than one thou-

directed not to be increased beyond the number will appear to be the more eminently just and 300,000 souls, two-thirds of whom are dependant on sea-going commerce for the supply of their ordinary food and raiment, and are separated by mountains and deserts of a thousand of authority but few other sanctions than those be made equal to that of a commander at sea.

In miles in extent from our other settlements.

Of death and imprisonment. And its simple pro
A board of naval officers has been convened. 2d. To give adequate protection and encour-

finished so as to undergo inspection and be received. The contract on this line, as on that to Liverpool, provides for five steamships.

To supply the demands of the service in the construction, equipment, and repair of vessels earthly marks and return at the end of their citizen in the militia; and the commanders and citizen in the militia; and the commanders and cording to the present arrangement, to make a citizen in the militia; and the commanders and cording to the present arrangement, to make a citizen in the militia; and the commanders and cording to the present arrangement, to make a citizen in the militia; and the commanders and cording to the present arrangement, to make a citizen in the militia; and the commanders and cording to the present arrangement, to make a citizen in the militia; and the commanders and cording to the present arrangement, to make a citizen in the militia; and the commanders and cording to the present arrangement, to make a citizen in the militia; and the commanders and cording to the present arrangement, to make a citizen in the militia; and the commanders and cording to the present arrangement, to make a citizen in the militia; and the commanders and cording to the present arrangement, to make a citizen in the militia; and the commanders and cording to the cording to the present arrangement, to make a citizen in the militia; and the commanders and cording to the cording to the cording to the cording to the present arrangement, to make a citizen in the militia; and the commanders and cording to the cording to the present arrangement, to make a cording to the cordinate arrangement, to make a cordinate construction, equipment, and repair of vessels cantile marine 2,000,000 of tons of shipping, an which is ascertained to be the average duration marked difference in the navigation of the two of all descriptions, navy yards are established amount greater than that of any other nation of of human life. This long apprenticeship, which occans, if the design be to bring her home to cretion of the captain, be put in irons, or flogged it-1. Portsmouth, New Hampshire: 2. Charles- the world: and, according to the ordinary esti- is not required for learning his duties, but is oc- refit, she will need a condition of repair to enatown, Massachusetts; 3. Brooklyn, New York; mate of six men to every one hundred tons, easioned by keeping him waiting for promotion ble her to weather Cape Horn and pass up the 4. Philadelphia; 5. Washington; 6. Norfolk; 7. there are in our merchant service 180,000 sea- until the exit of some one above him, not only boisterous coast of the Atlantic, which will men. In this array of hardy mariners to recruit depresses his ambition by deferring his hopes, quality her for an extended cruise in the Pacific. Permanent stone docks have been many years from, and in our vast resources for building, but denies him opportunity for the culture of The extraordinary state of prices now prevailing Norfolk, and a third is nearly completed in that the elements of a naval power unsurpassed in some basins and railways, are expected to be solved by the statesman is, how far these elements. since erected at the yards in Charlestown and equipping, and arming ships of war, we possess his self-reliance, confidence in his own skill and forbids the idea of building vessels or recruiting stone basins and railways, are expected to be ved by the statesman is, how far these elements quired by being thrown upon his own resources last advices, deficient by more than one half in less, at times been abuses, which was the prinher complement of men, without the ability to cipal mishief intended to be remedied. The alcompleted for use at Portsmouth and Pensacola are to be brought into u.e. Whether the present and responsibility.

To remedy this defect, which has become the recruit more, except at wages far above those in the course of the ensuing year, and a floating establishment, with its accustomed regulation.

To remedy this defect, which has become the recruit more, except at wages far above those vision of this Department, the sum total of which has become the remained to be remedied. The allowed the remained to be remedied. The allowed the complement of men, without the ability to recruit more, except at wages far above those vision of this Department, the sum total of which has become the remained to be remedied. The allowed the remained to be remedied. The allowed the remained to be remedied to be remedied. The allowed the remained to be remedied to be remedied. The allowed the remained to be remedied to be remedied. The allowed the remained to be remedied to be remedied. The allowed the remained to be remedied to be remedied to be remedied. The allowed the remained to the sectional dock, also with a stone basin and rail- and direction, is adapted to our present necessi- more grievous and striking since the limitation now allowed. It must, therefore, be greatly to confinement in irons. Aside from any compariimposed on the number of officers and promo- our interest, at least until a change in the mone- son in degrees of degradation of these two modes

Atlantic coast for the Pacific fleet. 2d. When a sufficient number of vessels shall be placed on that side of the Continent, to retain

3d. That when crews are wanted to man them,

With a dock for repairing vessels on the California coast, as contemplated by the act of the I also most earnestly recommend that the in time and money to the service in that quar-

I also most earnestly recommend that the service itself be elevated by recognising by law service itself be elevated by recognising at the service itself be elevated by recognising by law ter.

By a judicious disposition of our vessels, and the service itself be elevated by recognising at the service itself be elevated by recognising by law ter. least two officers of the rank of Rear Admiral, the improvement of the organization and disci-The increase of rank in the navy, often proposed pline of the personnel to the highest point of in the earlier history of the country, seems now efficiency, it is believed that our naval force need promoting discipline and effectiveness, by an in- territories; and that the policy of "gradual creased and concentrated responsibility in the increase," so long pursued, while it requires athighest grades the service, it would add to the tention to every improvement in naval construcdignity of our officers, not unfrequently the re- tion and warfare, need not be materially has-

often commands numerically inferior to their command of steamships of war in regard to In a service subjected to hardship, danger, and deprivation of the comforts of domestic life, there the great naval powers of the world, and which, and which, and which the great naval powers of the world, and which, and which the great naval powers of the world, and which an analysis of their great weight, and

their being slavers; but in each case the offence has been atoned for by explanations and apologies to our officers on that station, and the regrades. Such a reduction would adapt the sioned officer, a captain, ranks with a colonel. supply of officers to the state of the service, By a resolution of the Continental Congress in war, lest the progress of invention shall sup-

few months.

While the Saranac will be retained in the The Naval Academy at Annapol.s having been

placed under a new and improved system of regulations, to take effect from the 1st day of der it effective, to provide that from time to time der it effective, to provide that from time to time der it effective, to provide that from time to time brilliant success of a veteran soldier, it may be July last, and under an enlarged corps of prospective of a companied or followed by its correlative of fessors, affords facilities and means of professors, affords facilities and means of professors aff public service, either from superannuation or vice-admiral in the navy, according to the pleasional education not heretofore enjoyed by the young gentlemen entering the service, and it is hoped is destined to furnish the navy with West Point. The attachment to the Naval Academy of a practice ship, for the purpose of practical instruction in seamanship and gunnery, on short cruises, under the direction of the superintendent, in analogy to the system of encharts prepared at the Hydrographical Office, for campment by the cadets, is regarded as an imcampment by the cadets, is regarded as an improvement of great value. The academic term, of transportation and a reasonable commission, so and is in successful progress. Plans and estireport of the Chief of the Bareau of Ordnance and Hydrography, which are approved and recommended by the Department.

Applications of meritorious persons for the appointment of midshipmen, induce me to recommend that a few appointments at large be allowed to the President, as a means of promoting youths of extraordinary promise, and of placing the sons of officers of the navy and army, who have little choice of residence, on a footing of equality with the other young men letter appended from him, that he has solicited of the country in eligibleness for the naval ser- and engaged the labors of scientific person The deficiency of the articles of war for the

brought to the attention of Congress by the reports of my predecessors, that I would centend myself on this head by a general reference to them, but for the alteration made in these arti- power, in mechanics have been continued since my number of ships. Since the reduction of the age, as well as with all our ideas of propriety, number of vessels and men, after the re-establishment of friendly relations with France by the members are habitually exposed, if not to treaty in 1801, no statute for more than forty the dangers of battle, to those of the ocean, the is seriously felt, and demands an early remedy. cles by a clause in the appropriation act of last offence, whether by the judgment of a court-martial or the summary command of the chief be employed in the navy, or in its several ranks which there is so wide a field for competition in the necessity for stationing on that coast an officer of a ship, is totally abolished. Deferring entirely to this decision of the legislature, I deem it my duty to remind them that the act in question has imposed on them the duty of revising Congress.

The course of experiments in gunnery, and the

in the navy without delay. Both officers and seamen should be early informed, not only what sand miles in length, occupied by a sparse popu- is the rule of their conduct, but what penalty will be incurred in case of its violation. The punishment by whipping entered so largely into the code heretofore existing since the foundation of the navy, that its abolition has left in the hands with deference recommend that his compensation bibition, without any other change of the system, leaves the offender still exposed to the extreme penalty of human law, to which stripes were in

upon his watch, or negligently perform the duty the officers comprising it.

assigned him, or leave his station before regulif the offender be a private, he may, at the disnot exceeding twelve lashes."

It is manifest, therefore, that in all such cases. involving the sentences of courts-martial, the recent legislation has in no degree abated the ficient information has yet been received to justify severity of the naval code.

of punishment, it cannot fail to be observed that 1st. To build ships and recruit sailors on the the latter disables and weakens the ship's company by the amount of every man confined, and would have few terrors for hardened offenders on the trying occasions of a battle or a storm. It must also be recollected that, existing at discretion, it is liable to the same abuse, with its al-2d. To educate a number equally as great as af er the expiration of the term of those origicient for the enforcement of discipline. In view cient for the enforcement of discipline. In view of the difficulties which surround this subject, estimates for the present year. To it, however,

sembled at the seat of government for another the coast of the Pacific, of which an estimate w purpose, to ask their opinion on several questions purpose, to ask their opinion on several questions connected with this change of discipline, and will probably be able to communicate it within a few days. And I respectfully suggest that a separated from those for fixed and permanent observations of Cangrass shall take the testimony. fleet in the Pacific, and operate a vast saving committee of Congress shall take the testimony on oath of respectable and experienced seamen,

posed by officers in command of single ships. The line of mail steamers between New York academy, as related to the and Liverpool, owned by E. K. Collins and his associates, commenced the transportation of the the Atlantic and Pacific, to which have been re-cently added two others, the Arctic and Baltic, The total amount drawn from the Treasury

and authorized by the same act, has had no ac- From which deduct repayments cession to its number of vessels since the last annual report from this Department.

wall is proprietor, as assignee of Arnold Harris, has received an addition of two new steamers,

1850, directing payments to be made on these several lines, according to the service actually performed, there was paid to George Law, for mail service on his line, from 1st December. mail service on his line, from 1st December, 1848, to 30th September, 1850, in cash \$300,278 And by credit on his debt for advances 50,000.

in the port of Baltimore for trial.

Occasional instances have occurred of the interference of British cruisers with vessels bearing our flag on that coast, upon suspicion of line to the port of Baltimore for trial.

Abundance of capital in our country, it would be wiser to rely upon contracts with private citizens for the building and repairs of our public recommendation of the provision of the army. The commanders of some of the army of the army of the constructed, shall be furnished with be wiser to rely upon contracts with private citizens for the building and repairs of our public recommendation of the army. The commanders of some of the army of the arm

on the 20th and 25th November, 1830, there was paid to E. K. Collins and his associates, for service on their line, \$163,000, leaving the former indebted to the United States in the sum of \$240,000 with interest, and the latter in the sum of

amount of the advancements received by him in mail service prior to the 18th Fehruary last, ac-cording to a settlement then made, and, having

executed his contract with great punctuality, has had further settlements with the Department to the 30th of September last.

I respectfully recommend that a line for the transportation of the mails from San Francisco to Macao, Shanghai, or other point in Eastern Asia, either by stemmers or sail yessels, he also establish. either by steamers or sail vessels, be also established. Such a line would furnish regular and early means of communication between our squadrons in the Pacific and the China seas, enabling their

early co-operation whenever occasion might require, and would contribute much to the facilita-tion of that commerce with the East, to which reference has been already made.

In consequence of the adaptation of mail steamers principally for speed and transportation, it has been doubted by officers of great intelligence whether they can be converted into war steamers of the first class without much additional expense, ince they have neither the strength to bear heavy armaments nor to withstand cannonading. But as long as warfare at sea, unlike that on land, permits the seizure of the private property of the peo-ple of an enemy when found aftoat on the ocean, they can always be employed with great advan-

suit of a cruiser, they must prove a most form: dable means of annoyance to merchantinen.

The operations of the National Observatory and Hydrographical Office continue to be conducted in a manner highly satisfactory, and are adding much to the stores of knowledge and the facilities

prosecuted its labors successfully, and has been signally favored by the Chilian government and people, as is manifest from the flattering mention of it in the recent message of the President to the Congress of that country, and from his applying and procuring to be attached to it a number of their young men as students of astronomy.

The preparations for the publication of an American Nautical Almanac, by Lieut. Davis,

rious parts of the United States as assist in putors, and there is every reason to he we when this work shall be completed, it we government of the navy, have been so repeatedly only be highly valuable to navigators, but while worthy of the scientific character of the country. The exper ments of Professor Page in testi the application of electro-magnetism as a motive report made in compliance with a resolution of

> The meteorological observations of Professor Espey, which are still in progress under the appropriation made at the last session of Congress, will be detailed in his report to be presented to

> preparation of ordnance and ordnance stores of all kinds at the navy yard in Washington, have been conducted in a manner highly satisfactory to the Department, and, in consideration of the great importance of this particular duty to the effectiveness of our naval armament every where, and the labor

vice, and the relative rank of officers of the army and navy when acting together, on which the opin-ion of the President was requested by a resolution

"Art. 17, If any person in the navy shall desert, or shall entice others to desert, he shall "Art. 20. If any person in the navy shall sleep report of the board and a personal conference with

arly relieved, he shall suffer death, or such other punishment as a court-martial shall adjudge; or approved September 28, 1850, to purchase American waterrotted hemp in open market, for the use of the navy, provided the price shall not exceed that of "the foreign article for the last five years," the hemp agents at Louisville and St. Louis have been instructed to make inquiries and receive pro-posals as to the price of the article; but no suf-

From this should be deducted the estimates for the extraordinary objects. as follows, viz : Transportation of the mail, improvement of the navy

yards, nautical almanac, &c. - - 2,210,980 To show the amount proposed for the support of the naval service, includ-

ing he marine corps, for the year - \$5,900,621 The above aggregate, it will be perceived, is less ports on the ordinary line of travel across the I avail myself of the presence of a board of must be added the amount which may be required Isthmus of Panama, as they are now transported highly intelligent and experienced officers, as- for the floating dry-dock, basin, and railway on be supplied so soon as the contract shall be made,

jects on shore, and more especially from those for extraordinary objects under the supervision of the as well as officers, in reference to a proper code Department, which, however important as subjects of discipline for the service, and especially in re- of public interest, are not necessarily connected gard to the discretionary punishments to be imposed by officers in command of single ships. were prepared for navy yards and docks, and the naval academy, and for the mail steam service, and other objects of the class above mentioned, it mails in April last, in compliance with their congress of the 3d March, 1847, in two steamships, der each of these various heads, and would relieve the Atlantic and Pacific to which have been re- the navy from the charge of extravagant expen-

\$9,691,805 61

And there is left the sum of The line from Panama to San Francisco and thence to Astoria, of which Mr. Wm. H. Asp r. trol of this Department. Of this amount there was expended for special objects the sum of \$2. 368,169 11, leaving, as the true expenditures for

the Tennessee and Columbia, within the last few months, making its whole number five.

According to the directions another list.

The unexpended balance in the Treasury of the According to the directions contained in the appropriations for the naval service, marine corps, act of the last session, approved 28th September, and special objects, under the control of this De-

I commend to the attention of Congress the reforms introduced in the supply of provisions by the efficient chief of that bureau, and his sugges-This payment was made in compliance with tions as to others which can only be effected by

legislation.

Likewise to the statement made by the Chief of